

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 77

By Griffey

A RESOLUTION to honor Tanner Hudson, Super Bowl LV champion.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are pleased to recognize a native Tennessean who has reached the acme of professional football by winning Super Bowl LV as a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers; and

WHEREAS, Tanner Hudson, Benton County and Big Sandy native and Camden Central High School graduate, is truly a hometown hero; posters and t-shirts bearing his number 88 abound throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, Tanner Hudson returned this hometown love by sponsoring a billboard that included his thanks and a prophetic message, "Now let's get that ring."; and

WHEREAS, he first attended and played middle-school football at Big Sandy School and then played basketball, baseball, and football at Camden Central High School; and

WHEREAS, a triple threat as quarterback, kicker, and punter at Camden Central, Tanner Hudson was named District 11-AA Most Valuable Punter as a junior after averaging 38.7 yards per punt while also passing for 581 yards and seven touchdowns with 152 yards and three touchdowns rushing; and

WHEREAS, he began his collegiate football career at the University of Memphis but transferred to Southern Arkansas University following his redshirt freshman year; and

WHEREAS, in his first season with the Muleriders, Tanner Hudson changed positions to become a tight end while also handling the team's punting duties; in each of his last three seasons, he caught at least 40 passes and had more than 600 receiving yards; and

WHEREAS, during his junior season, he set career highs with 48 catches, 763 receiving yards, and nine touchdown receptions and was named second team All-Great American Conference (GAC) while also finishing third in the conference in yards per punt with 41.9; and

WHEREAS, as a senior, Tanner Hudson had 43 receptions for 624 yards and six touchdowns and was named first team All-GAC and a second team All-American by the American Football Coaches Association and the Division II Conference Commissioner's Association; he finished his collegiate career with 143 receptions for 2,152 yards and 25 touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, he signed with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers as an undrafted free agent on April 29, 2018, but spent most of that season on the practice squad; and

WHEREAS, Tanner Hudson made the Buccaneers final roster to begin the 2019 season and made his NFL debut on October 27, 2019, against the Tennessee Titans; he caught his first career pass on November 3, 2019, and finished the season with two receptions for 26 yards; and

WHEREAS, Tanner Hudson re-signed with the Buccaneers on a one-year contract on March 13, 2020; after being promoted to the active roster on September 23, 2020, he finished the season with three receptions for 41 yards; and

WHEREAS, in Super Bowl LV, Tanner realized a lifelong dream when he played alongside his two favorite players of all time, Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski, as the Buccaneers marched to victory and claimed an NFL Championship; and

WHEREAS, now that he has secured his Super Bowl ring, Mr. Hudson can spend more time back home in Tennessee with his friends and family, but especially his mother, Karen Hudson; his father, the late Danny Hudson, instilled in his son his love for hunting, fishing, and the great outdoors and still holds a special place in Tanner's heart; and

WHEREAS, Tanner Hudson has reached the very pinnacle of his profession, and he is most worthy of our approbation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Tanner Hudson upon winning Super Bowl LV as a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success on the gridiron and in life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.